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USE OF ELECTRICITY IN NORTH KOREA

The Ministry of Industry has issued Regulation No 7, on the use of electricity, which shall become effective from 1 January 1949.

A. General Provisions

1. All use of electricity shall be in conformity with the present regulation. The term "supplier" as used in this regulation refers collectively to the state-operated electric power distribution enterprises, and the term "consumer" includes both factory and individual consumers of electricity.

2. The supply of electricity shall be in accordance with the following standards:

<u>Light</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Heat</u>
Single-phase alternating current two-wire system	Three-phase alternating current three-wire system	Single-phase alternating current two-wire system
60-cycle	60-cycle	60-cycle
100 v	Low-tension 220 v	100 v
	High-tension 300 Kv	
	11 Kv	
	22 Kv	
	44 Kv	
	66 Kv	
	154 Kv	
	220 Kv	

The voltage may fluctuate up to 5 percent for light and 10 percent for power and heat at the sources of supply.

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B. Rules Governing Supply of Electricity

The consumer of electricity may file the standard application form with the supplier, furnishing all the necessary information such as purpose of use, amount and location of consumption, etc., The same procedure shall also apply to reinstallations and other changes. The supplier shall notify the applicant of the rejection or acceptance of his application within 15 days after its receipt. The supplier may supply electricity only under the following conditions:

1. The consumer complies fully with the present and other regulations governing the use of electricity.
2. Electric appliances, machinery, and installations at the point of consumption are in good working conditions.
3. Where the consumption is over 50 kilowatt-hours, the use must be approved by the Bureau of Electric Control in the Ministry of Industry.

The consumer may, with the permission of the Ministry of Industry, install and use electric appliances in his home at his own expense. He may use an electric clock and an electric iron simultaneously provided that the latter is 500 watts or less. Users of home appliances must keep the standard daily record of electricity consumption, and submit the same to the supplier whenever it is requested. The consumer may make periodic adjustments or minor repairs of the appliances as long as such adjustments or repairs do not disturb the flow of electricity.

The consumer may not use electric appliances without due inspection and approval by the Ministry of Industry. He must notify the supplier immediately whenever a defect is found in electric outlets or appliances. The supplier shall inspect the defect within 3 hours after the notification if the consumer resides in the city, and within 12 hours if the consumer resides outside the city. The consumer must pay the cost of damage to the electric fixtures installed by the supplier of electricity.

No electric lights may be used during the day unless such use is absolutely necessary for production or other purposes.

The supplier may refuse to supply electricity to the consumer who falls into any of the following categories:

1. If he violates regulations governing the use of electricity.
2. If he wastes or pilfers electricity.
3. If he becomes delinquent in the payment of electric bills.
4. If he negligently or wantonly damages the supplier-installed electric fixtures.
5. If he uses home electric appliances without a permit, or refuses to allow inspection thereof.
6. If he disobeys the order by the supplier to repair, replace, install fire preventive devices, or fails to remove any electric appliances which the supplier considers unsafe.
7. If he fails to notify the supplier of the construction, alteration, or repair of the premises which in any way affect the electric outlets.
8. If he fails to keep the electricity consumption records as required of the users of home electric appliances, either through negligence or to defraud.

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The consumer who commits any of the following violations shall fall into Category No 2 above (wastage and pilferage of electricity) and shall be punished accordingly:

- a. Installs or extends outlets without permission, or uses electricity in excess of the amount agreed-upon between the supplier and consumer.
- b. Uses electric light during the day.
- c. Uses electricity for unauthorized purposes or in unauthorized areas.
- d. Readjusts the meter-gauge for fraudulent purposes.

If a consumer is found pilfering or wasting electricity, he must pay a fine covering the full amount of the cost incurred thereby. If the calculation of cost is difficult, as in case of violation d above, the amount shall be computed on the basis that the consumer pilfered electricity 24 hours a day for 6 months.

The supplier may demand from the consumer a bond or surety whenever necessary, for the payment of an electric bill.

For the Cabinet of the
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Kim Ch'aek, Minister of Industry
29 December 1948

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